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Declaration, Power of Attorney and Petition  
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27119

PATENT, TRADEMARK OFFICE

I hereby appoint practitioners at customer number 27,119 to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

Direct all correspondence to Customer Number 27,119.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Inventor's Signature:

Date:

Aug. 28, 2001

Inventor's Name: Laurie J. Brown

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Citizenship: USA

Post Office Address: Same as Residence

T00280-46644660

**VERIFIED STATEMENT CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS  
(37 CFR 1.9(f) & 1.27(b))--INDEPENDENT INVENTOR**

**Docket Number BrownLaurie-010614**

**Applicant or Patentee:** Laurie J. Brown

Serial or Patent No.: Herewith

**Filed or Issued: Herewith**

**Title:** Method and Apparatus for Vending a Containerized Liquid Product Utilizing an Automatic Self-Service Refill System

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that I qualify as an independent inventor as defined in 37 CFR 1.9(c) for purposes of paying reduced fees to the Patent and Trademark Office described in the specification filed herewith with title as listed above.

I have not assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed and am under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey or license, any rights in the invention to any person who would not qualify as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(c) if that person had made the invention, or to any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e).

Each person, concern or organization to which I have assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed or am under an obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license any rights in the invention is listed below:

☒ No such person, concern, or organization exists.

☐ Each such person, concern or organization is listed below.

Separate verified statements are required from each named person, concern or organization having rights to the invention averring to their status as small entities. (37 CFR 1.27)

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR 1.28(b))

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

NAME OF INVENTOR Laurie J. Brown

**Signature of inventor**

Quare J. Burr

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Aug. 28, 2001